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100 Broderick St., #10  
San Francisco, CA 94117

May 19, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20857-0003

Re: Docket No. 98N-1265

Dear Sir/Madame:

I have been using a specialty pharmacy for six years now. I rely on the compounded hormones I receive from them because my system cannot tolerate the regular ERT hormone therapy. I also rely on a naturally compounded thyroid medication because I do better on it than on Synthroid. I would be lost without the specialty pharmacy that makes the naturally compounded drugs I need to maintain my health and well-being.

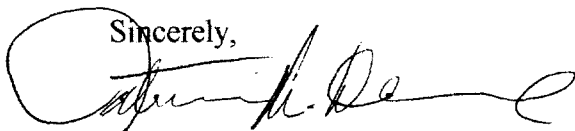
For the above reasons, I strongly request that the current MOU be amended. In its present form the MOU, as well as the Compounding Section 503A of the Modernization Act, severely restricts the rights of physicians and patients like myself to obtain healthcare products from the provider of their choice and infringes on the rights of compounding pharmacists to serve the public's medical needs.

For those of us who do not fit into the normal bell curve because one's system cannot tolerate noncompounded drugs, we need to have other healthcare options open to us. Do not take away or limit our right to purchase across state borders compounded drugs. (Currently I live in California but have to order my drugs from Wisconsin.)

Please reject the MOU as currently drafted and come up with a viable alternative for people such as myself who need access to compounded drugs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Patricia M. Devine

98N-1265

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